

TO CHANGE THE LAW

Alabama Legislature Wants New Line of Evidence in Murder Cases.

BETTER JURY SYSTEM DESIRED

Bill Seeking To Place a Tax on Bicycles Introduced—Another Anti-Gold Clause Act.

Montgomery, Ala., December 3.—(Special.) The most important bill introduced into today's assembly proceedings was one by Mr. Pitts, of Dallas, who is one of the foremost lawyers in the state.

It seeks to permit the introduction, in cases of assault with intent to murder and manslaughter, of evidence tending to show the party assaulted had been intimate with a female relative of the defendant the testimony in justification or part justification of crime as the jury may determine.

Mr. Pitts thinks that it is better that this law should be passed than that the law which makes it murder for a man to kill the seducer of his relatives should be ignored in order to meet the ends of justice.

Mr. Waller introduced an important bill, which seeks to provide a better jury system in the state. He provides that the judges should draw the jurors from those who have been filled by the commissioners of the county, instead of having the commissioners do the drawing and impeding of jurors.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Lavender seeking to subject bicycles to taxation. Mr. Thompson introduced a bill identical with Dr. Dreyer's bill, which seeks to have it declared unlawful for any person to make a contract calling for payment in gold or silver or any other coin, excepting the legal tender of the country.

No bills of general interest were passed by either house of the assembly being now employed in disposing of local measures. The educational committee of the two houses visited Booker T. Washington's school at Tuskegee today, returning at midnight tonight.

PAYING OFF SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Gov. Johnston Orders the State Treasurer To Disburse Money.

Montgomery, Ala., December 3.—(Special.) Governor Johnston today instructed the state treasurer to pay the public school teachers the amounts due them for the quarter ending October 1st.

It amounts to \$100,000. Up to this time there have not been sufficient funds on hand to discharge the obligations to the teachers, but during the past few days tax money has come into the treasury by thousands and more than \$200,000 is now available.

EPH KELLEY WAS SENT TO JAIL

Slayer of George Johnson Given a Preliminary Trial.

Selma, Ala., December 3.—(Special.)—Eph Kellogg, who killed George Johnson Friday last, was given a preliminary hearing today and committed to jail without bail.

POLICE AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEM

Selma, Ala., Will Soon Have the Gamewell Work In.

Selma, Ala., December 3.—(Special.)—The city of Selma contracted for a complete police and fire alarm system to be put in within ninety days.

The Gamewell system was selected, Louisville parties getting the contract, amounting to \$5,000.

BIG CATTLE DEALER IS MISSING.

Texan's Horse Returns with an Empty Saddle, Covered with Blood.

Dallas, Tex., December 3.—Cuts, a prominent cattle dealer at Fort Worth, twenty miles south of Dallas, is missing since yesterday morning.

It is believed he has been murdered, as his horse with saddle and other trappings was found covered with blood. A larva was found on the banks of the Trinity river and the conclusion is that Cuts has been murdered and the body dragged by a larva to the river and thrown in with stones tied to it.

The river is being dragged.

BURGLARS LOOT A LOAN OFFICE

Watches, Jewelry and Diamonds Are Carried Away.

Omaha, Neb., December 3.—Burglars broke into the safe of the Nebraska loan office Tuesday night and looted it of upward of \$5,000 worth of watches, diamonds and jewelry.

Eleven trays of watches, diamonds and jewels were emptied and the robbers disappeared without leaving any trace but broken drills and their methods of procedure to the police upon which to base a clue.

About \$500 in city warrants, a number of revolvers and \$50 in cash were also stolen.

TRIAL BEHIND CLOSED DOORS.

Young Planter and Merchant's Fate Hangs with a Jury.

Macon, Ga., December 3.—(Special.)—The trial of John West Skipper, the young planter and merchant, charged with criminally assaulting Mrs. Ford, has been going on in the superior court for the past two days behind closed doors. The evidence was closed at noon today and arguments followed.

FIREMAN KILLS AN OLD GERMAN

Keeper of a Beer Saloon Shot for Refusing Two Men Credit.

Savannah, Ga., December 3.—Thornberg, an old German, who kept a "free and easy" in Yamacraw, a tough quarter in this city, was shot and killed at 8 o'clock tonight by A. L. Pitts, a fireman.

The killing was entirely without cause. Pitts and another fireman named Galina entered the place and called for beer. Thornberg drew the beer, but refused to let the men have it until they paid for it.

Galina started behind the counter to get the beer anyhow. While he and Thornberg were struggling Pitts fired four shots at Thornberg.

The latter was found dead in the rear of the saloon.

"MOTHERS' FRIEND"

FOR RISING BREAST

Known and worth the price for that alone. Endorsed and recommended by midwives and all ladies who have used it.

Beware of substitutes and imitations.

Makes Child-Birth Easy.

Sent by Express or mail on receipt of price, \$1.00 per bottle. Book "TO MOTHERS"

MADEIRA REGULATOR CO., ATLANTA, GA.

SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

BUTCHER ROBBED IN HIS SHOP.

Highwayman Makes a Rome Meat Seller Give Up.

Rome, Ga., December 3.—(Special.)—John Miller came down town this morning at an early hour and opened his meat market. After putting things to rights he took \$25, which he had brought from home, and placed it in his cash drawer. It was still quite dark.

A few minutes afterwards a stranger entered the market, and drawing his pistol, presented it at Miller, at the same time ordering him to hold up his hands. While the market man held up his hands while the man hurried to the spot, which is right in the heart of the city and in the same block with the Central hotel.

The dogs were brought from the jail and the man hurried to the spot, which is right in the heart of the city and in the same block with the Central hotel.

Miller stated that he was a white man and described him, but there is no clue as to his identity. The affair caused a great deal of excitement and is the boldest of all the robberies committed during the last few weeks.

THEY BEAT AND ROB MINISTER

Two Negroes Club a Preacher Into Insensibility, and He May Die.

Chattanooga, Tenn., December 3.—(Special.)—Two negroes entered the residence of Rev. T. P. Davis, a Baptist preacher at Mountain Junction, near this city, at a late hour last night, and with the butt end of their pistols clubbed Mr. Davis into insensibility and then robbed the house of everything they could carry off.

Mr. Davis is an old man and almost helpless. Great indignation prevails in and about the suburbs and if the negroes are caught there will be trouble. Mr. Davis may die.

BRADBERRY DIES OF WOUNDS.

Man Who Killed Caldwell Monday Gives Up His Life.

Athens, Ga., December 3.—(Special.)—Stock Bradberry, of Comer, Ga., who was wounded in a fight with Caldwell a few days ago, died last night.

Caldwell, with whom he had the difficulty, was killed instantly, while Bradberry lingered quite a while.

CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR BAYARD.

English People Will Remember the United States Ambassador.

London, December 3.—The Daily Telegraph announced its intention of opening public subscription for the purpose of presenting Mr. Bayard, the United States ambassador, with a national Christmas gift.

The Telegraph will head the list with a donation of £100 and will welcome the smallest contributions. The paper suggests that rare and unique editions of the works of Chaucer and Shakespeare, of which it has a large collection, be procured as a suitable gift to Mr. Bayard.

The Telegraph's principal editorial article will be devoted to advocacy of the proposed and to a warm tribute to the "good and high-minded ambassador, who has shown patriotism for America and filial affection for Great Britain—roses growing from the same generous stem."

FIVE EDITORS ARE ON TRIAL.

Prince Hohenzoln and Von Biebertstein Testify in Libel Case.

Berlin, December 3.—The trial of the five editors of the *Reichsanzeiger* and *Herrmann*, charged with libeling Count von Eulenberg, Freiherr Marschall von Bieberstein and Prince Alexander von Hohenzoln, was continued today.

Prince Hohenzoln on the stand said that the assertion that the defendant Leckert had interviewed him meant nothing at all. Baron Marschall von Bieberstein was called to the stand. He said he was not acquainted with either Baron von Leutzow or Herr Leckert. Under the supposition that he had been approached by a reporter at Breslau, who was unable to take notes in French, he said, he had written out the facts for him, which was verified by a Russian official.

The wrong version of the toast, he said, was due to a mistake of the reporter. Afterwards it appeared that Baron von Leutzow was the author of the assertion that the false information had emanated from the foreign office.

NEWFOUNDLAND BUYS RAILWAY

Analysis of Gold Claims Does Not Pan Out as Expected.

St. Johns, N. F., December 3.—The colonial government announces that it has purchased all the rights of the Newfoundland railway company, which have been before courts for years.

The rights include a twenty-two years' mail subsidy and \$45,000 yearly allowance for the purpose of the South expedition must be returned. Lord Cromer, diplomatic agent of Great Britain, has informed the Egyptian government that England will repay the \$250,000 advanced by the British government for the purpose of the expedition.

The conditions of the amount of interest and the repayment of the principal are to be settled hereafter.

Will Start Republican Paper.

Raleigh, N. C., December 3.—A meeting of republicans interested in establishing a daily paper for that party here was held at the Raleigh Hotel.

Arrangements were made to be given publication January 1st.

VOTE WAS VERY LIGHT

Consolidated Returns in DeKalb County Show That But Few Voted.

The citizens of DeKalb county who favored the removal of the courthouse and county seat from Decatur to Stone Mountain met with quite a defeat, as the consolidated returns which were announced yesterday show.

The vote was exceedingly light, as those who opposed the removal of the courthouse remained away from the polls and did not vote.

The total registered vote was 3,006, and a two-thirds vote of the entire registration was necessary before the courthouse could be moved, even should the next legislature approve of the measure. In Wednesday's election there were only 974 votes cast, and of the total number of votes cast, 855 were favorable to the removal and 119 were against the removal, while the votes that counted most in the election were not cast, but the voters simply remained away from the polls.

The consolidated return of the vote was made yesterday, showing the following result:

PRECINCTS. Removal. Against Removal.

Evans..... 27 7
Brownings..... 21 3
Doraville..... 13 7
Kays..... 13 7
Panthersville..... 14 7
McWilliams..... 15 6
Phillips..... 13 7
Lithoon..... 13 7
Redman..... 13 7
Stone Mountain..... 28 0
Clarkston..... 28 0
Decatur..... 28 0

Total..... 815 170

"It is a very silly idea that has been advanced by some," said Colonel Candler, yesterday, "when they claim that the measure required the two-thirds vote of all the voters of the county. This is not correct, but the vote referred to was of course the registered vote. How else could the total number be ascertained? The supreme court has settled that question beyond the peradventure of a doubt and it is only the registered vote that is taken into consideration at all."

In several of the precincts the polls were not opened showing that the vote was the lightest that has ever been held in that county in any election.

STEPHEN LITTLE MAKES REPORT

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Finances Are Carefully Reviewed.

New York, December 3.—The report of Stephen Little, president of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad, reviews the finances of the company for the seven years and two months, ending November 30, 1895.

It shows over \$2,721,063; mischarges of work-out equipment to profit and loss, instead of income to the amount of \$2,848,596; capitalization of charges to income under the title of "construction, main stem, etc.," to the amount of \$2,064,741; capitalization of so-called improvements and betterments, leased or dependent roads to the amount of \$7,755,453; total, \$11,204,853.

This represents the extent of the manipulation of the income of the former management of the property. In November, 1891, there was paid a stock dividend of 20 per cent on the then capital stock of \$24,000. The total dividend was \$4,800,000. In addition cash dividends to the amount of \$3,312,087 were paid in the period covered by the report. The latter amount represented supposed surplus funds, but was not a dividend. The total cash dividends together amounted to \$8,112,087. Of these dividends only \$2,848,596 was actually received by the stockholders, the balance of \$5,263,491 being in real estate and in the stock and bonds of subordinate companies.

Little four years ago in order to conceal the over statements of net income two improved profit and loss accounts were opened. One was a general adjustment account and the other a fictitious debit account. The total fictitious debit was shown to be \$16,212,730.

MEETING OF GOLD DEMOCRATS.

New York Wants To Form a Party in That State.

New York, December 3.—A meeting of the national democracy—gold democrats—was held tonight in the ballroom of the Hoffman house. About 125 prominent members of the party were present.

Wheeler H. Peckham said he believed that a party could be formed in this state and city that would supersede the present democratic organization.

Robert B. Roosevelt offered a resolution providing that the chair should appoint a committee of fifteen to act with the chair in preparing plans for perfecting and increasing the organization.

LOCAL AGENT AIRY PROMOTED.

Southern Railway Changes Some Officials in Macon.

Macon, Ga., December 3.—(Special.)—C. T. Airy, who has been local freight agent of the Southern, has been promoted to general agent of the Southern in this city. He will be in charge of the entire freight business for this territory and control all soliciting business. D. E. Smith, who has been in charge of the freight business, will be promoted to the position of local freight agent. Mr. Airy takes charge of both offices.

ROUTING OF FREIGHT.

Railroads Object To Giving the Shipper the Right To Route It.

The senate committee on railroads took up yesterday the railroad commission bill to require railroads to route freight as designated by the shipper. The bill provides that a railroad must deliver freight or freight cars to the shipper at the place and receive freight cars and freight from connections as directed by the shipper.

Instances have occurred in Georgia where a railroad refused to connect with connections as directed by the shipper. There was one noted case in which the Central railroad refused to receive freight from the Georgia road at Macon, the shipment having been consigned to a point on the Central road. The Central's contention was that it had a line to Augusta where the Georgia road received its freight. The freight should have been delivered to it. While the roads were fighting over the consignment the freight remained at Macon and the consignee was deprived of the use of it. To remedy this the Georgia railroad commission framed a bill to compel roads to deliver freight and receive it when so directed by the shipper.

The railroads were represented at the hearing yesterday by President Comer, of the Central; President George C. Smith, of the Atlanta and West Point; Vice President A. B. Andrews, Traffic Manager J. M. Culp and Colonel William A. Henderson, counsel for the Southern; Mr. Al-

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It was decided to secure an endowment fund of \$500,000 for the Hebrew Union college, at Cincinnati, the executive board to have control of the same. Rev. D. Leitch, of New Orleans, guaranteed to raise \$100,000 of the fund.

It was also decided to take part in the parliament of religions at the Nashville centennial next year and the appointment of a committee of five to co-operate with the central conference of American rabbis in making arrangements was recommended.

The National Council of Jewish Women was endorsed and rabbis were instructed to give the women all the aid possible. The report of the committee on civil and religious freedom was adopted. It is a very strong document and calls for agitation through the public press toward securing the rights for Jews, holding that it will be more efficient than working through the state department. It is held, however, to be the duty of civilized government to protect against the persecution of any people while account is taken of their religious beliefs, and where protest is fruitless, to interfere by such methods as may secure the sacred rights of human beings. The report also calls for change in the constitution of the United States toward recognizing any form of religion and it is recommended that the board of delegates inaugurate and maintain strenuous agitation to bring about the inclusion from all executive proclamations of phrases recognizing particular religious doctrine.

The report concludes: "While we recognize that often allusions in executive proclamations to particular religious dogma are used as figures of speech, we protest against such expressions as evidence of the off-repeated assertions that our government recognizes a religion."

The following executive board was elected: Isaac W. Bernheim, Louisville, Ky.; Bernheim, Cincinnati; Josiah Cohen, Pittsburgh; Max Dinkelspiel, vice president, New Orleans; Nathan Drucker, Cincinnati; Marks Fishel, New York; Jacob H. Fishel, New York; Julius Freiberg, president, Cincinnati; William Goodheart, Cincinnati; Simon Haverhill, Detroit; Lewis Haim-Schmer, Cincinnati; Sigmund Lery, Baltimore; Morris Kohner, New York; Lewis Krohn, president, Cincinnati; Morris Loth, Cincinnati; Moses Milsher, Richmond; Morris Schloss, New York; Alfred Strous, Baltimore; Morris Tuck, New York; Moses Ullman, Cleveland; Julius Wels, New Orleans; Emanuel Wertheimer, Pittsburgh; William L. Wolfe, Baltimore.

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FIXING TO GET OUT BAUXITE

Eastern Capitalists Buy Machinery and Prepare for Work.

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The company will put in \$30,000 to equip the plant and to take care of the service for all that is worth. The demand for bauxite has grown to such an extent that the mines operated in this section are inadequate to supply the market.

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Rome Preparing for a Grand Fraternal Event.

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Alabama M. E. Church, South.

Montgomery, Ala., December 3.—The Alabama conference of the Methodist church, southern district, met in session today at Granberry presiding. There is a large attendance of ministers and the reports for the year are favorable. Little but routine work has been done as yet.

Robert L. Reeves, Athens, Ga. Athens, Ga., December 3.—(Special.)—Robert L. Reeves, of Athens, was in the street this morning at 2 o'clock of pneumonia. He was a nephew of Hon. R. K. Reeves of this city, and a brother-in-law of Alderman P. A. Rhodes, of Athens council. His funeral will be held tomorrow.

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From The Albany Herald. The Sunday editions of the metropolitan papers are getting to be not only burdensome, but dangerous. A bundle of New York papers thrown from the newspaper train last Sunday morning, at Ridge Avenue, nearly wrecked the passenger shed at that point.

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WILL FINISH FIGHT BEFORE A JUDGE

Bank Enjoyed from Paying Sailor
Sharkey the Prize.

COURTS TO INTERPRET DOULS

Julian Wants the Bench To Judge the
Result of Late Fight

LEGAL ADVOCATES TO CONSTRUCT UNLAWFUL ACT

Fitzsimmons Is Looked Up by All
Who Saw the Battle as the Winner—Says He Was Robbed.

San Francisco, December 3.—Whether or not Bob Fitzsimmons did or did not foul Tom Sharkey in last night's fight, the courts are to decide.

Sharkey may get the money but Fitzsimmons certainly has all the honor. From the time the two men shook hands at 10:30 o'clock last night until Sharkey dropped, like a ten-pin before a terrific percussive blow, the fight was a one-sided affair.

Experts in pugilism awarded round after round to the boxer who was the victor. Jack McAuliffe, Jimmy Carr, Johnny Herget (Young Mitchell), Longshore, Eddie Greaney and scores of others declared that the decision of Referee Earp was a plain case of robbery.

Mr. Frank McLaughlin, chairman of the republican state central committee, who is probably in a better position to see the fight than anybody, says that the knockout was as clean an upset as he ever saw.

Earp's selection as referee was about in a peculiar way. For many years Martin Julian has urged Danny Lynch, Sharkey's manager, to name a satisfactory man, but Lynch has invariably refused to do so, claiming that there was play of time.

Yesterday morning the manager wrangled over the question for hours. Julian named man after man, but Lynch so obdurately refused to do so, claiming that there was play of time.

When the noon hour arrived, President Groom, of the National City, was called upon to make a selection. He fixed upon Wyatt Earp and Julian agreed to accept him. Rather than leave Fitzsimmons open to the charge of cowardice, Julian took the short end of the stick.

Sharkey was clearly distressed. That Sharkey has improved as a boxer, no one who saw him perform last night will deny. That he is a good fighter, and entirely outclassed in contest with Fitzsimmons is also not disputed. The men were about evenly matched in weight, there being less than two pounds difference between them.

"I was simply robbed of \$10,000 by that decision," said Fitzsimmons after last night's battle. "I felt sure I was going to win, but I was robbed of it by Earp."

He named, but his reputation was at stake and I took chances. I never struck a foul blow in my life and no one knows better than Sharkey that I won last night's fight fair and square. Look at me. Do you see a single mark or scratch? Did I get a good, solid punch during the fight? Why the hell is it simply a strong-willed man and one of the foulest boxes I ever saw. Nobody can get a square deal from the thieves who handle fights in this town."

"I now believe Corbett was robbed of the decision here in his Jackson fight," Sharkey asserts that he had the best of every round and would certainly have won had he not been fouled. Sporting writers are unanimous in saying that the sailor is the luckiest man that ever stepped into a ring. Sharkey announces willingness to meet all comers for the world's championship.

Julian will ask for an injunction restraining the bank from paying Sharkey the check for the purse of \$10,000, and the matter will be taken into the courts.

Fitz Doesn't Show a Scratch. Fitzsimmons was around the Baldwin hotel at an early hour this morning showing the faintest trace of his encounter with Sharkey last night. He is most bitter in his denunciation of the "sailor's foul tactics." Referee Earp and the management of the fight, he says, he was robbed of the decision and that it was prearranged to give the battle to his opponent. The blow which laid Sharkey low, the Australian declares, was a right hand blow on the stomach. This landed fairly and not below the belt, as maintained by the referee. Fitzsimmons is anxious to meet Sharkey again and will fight him any time and any place the latter may name.

Those in attendance upon Sharkey say that he suffered terribly all night, requiring the constant service of two physicians up to 4 o'clock, when he was taken to his apartment. Sharkey's condition is very serious, and it is expected that he will be resting easier today. A police officer is on watch at Sharkey's quarters, and if the condition of the pugilist becomes serious Fitzsimmons will be arrested.

The Lick Not a Foul. Three of the most reputable physicians in this city, Drs. B. B. Lee, D. P. Ragan and T. A. Rottazzi, examined Sharkey at 10:15 o'clock this morning. The Southern Association representative being present, Dr. Ragan, the result was this: "The fight was a fair one, and the decision was correct."

Sharkey has a gash over the left eye, which could not have been caused by a blow from a glove, as the eye is not closed; also a swelling on the left cheek, to which he applied a hot compress. The left ear is swollen from extravasation, or blood settling under the surface. There is not a bruise or a mark on the upper part of the body save a slight abrasion of the skin caused by contact with the ropes in the fifth round and which is of no consequence whatever.

This is what caused the damage," and here Sharkey was stripped and the physician pointed to a huge swelling on the lower part of the body near the groin. There was discoloration in one spot, showing where the blow had landed.

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was robbed of the victory and its financial fruits.

He stated that Fitzsimmons is ready to sign for a finish fight with Jim Corbett for the \$10,000 purse offered by Stuart and that if Sharkey will get into the ring with him he will whip him the same day or night he fights Corbett.

Stuart declines last night's fight or Referee Earp's decision. He is free to say, however, that the outcome has not lessened public interest in a match between Fitzsimmons and Corbett or shaken the confidence of the friends of the Australian.

Stuart has heard nothing from Corbett in regard to his offer. He said to a Southern Associated Press representative:

"I do not feel surprised at this, however, as the Corbett party are probably waiting for me to arrive in the east. I would be there now only for my sickness. I am unable to travel, but feel so much improved today that I hope to start east inside of a week's time, perhaps in three or four days."

Stuart is able to sit up again in his private office.

WANTS SHARKEY AND BOB. London National Sporting Club Will Hang a Purse for the Fighters. London, December 3.—The National Sporting Club announces that it will offer a purse to be contested for in a twenty-round bout between Sharkey and Fitzsimmons in the arena of that organization.

HE WANTS TO MEET SHARKEY. "Pompador Jim" Wires the Sailor, Asking for a Fight. New York, December 3.—James J. Corbett, when he heard the result of the Sharkey-Fitzsimmons fight, sent the following telegram to the winner:

"Tom Sharkey, San Francisco, Cal.—Am very sorry Mr. Fitzsimmons was so successful in his contest with you, which prevented your getting a decision over him in this place. I am ready to meet you on or before January 1, 1909."

"JAMES J. CORBETT."

SOUTHERN LEAGUE IS TO MEET. Directors of the Old Baseball Combine in Birmingham. New Orleans, December 3.—Henry Fowler, president of the Southern Association of Baseball Clubs, will leave tomorrow for Birmingham to attend the annual meeting to be held there on December 6th.

President Fowler is certain that next season will be the banner one of the Southern League and expects to launch it with eight or ten strong clubs, which will finish the season in St. Louis. It is said that New Orleans will be represented by another team of champions.

Water Continues to Rise. Water began rising about 4 o'clock this morning and came up with a rush. In two hours it had passed far behind its maximum height of yesterday.

Those who had vacated their stores had the satisfaction of knowing that the move was not an unnecessary one and they were the only persons who claimed any measure of consolation out of the cheerless situation.

The water filled every basement in the affected blocks and the top and furnace that escaped yesterday were drowned out today.

The Milwaukee freight depot stands at an angle of 45 degrees from its former tracks with strong cables alone preventing it from falling into the river. The water eddied around it all day slowly eating its foundation from under and total collapse will follow before morning, as much care was not taken by the Wisconsin Central company to preserve its passenger station.

The old structure stands out gloomily in its bed of water and will never be fit to use again. On every side of it is water and the current runs swiftly over the platform.

The tracks are twisted and snarled and will not be fit for use for some time.

Colonel Jones, the army engineer, says that he cannot give an opinion yet as to what is best to do. He found the ice pack or gorge extended eighteen miles and that while the water was rising in Chippewa Falls, the river itself was falling and that he did not believe that the danger was so very great just now. Further than this he will not speak until he had investigated more thoroughly.

FLORIDA HOTEL TURNS TO ASHES. House at Coronado Burns Without Any Insurance on It. Coronado, Fla., December 3.—The Coronado hotel was burned to the ground Monday night, December 2. The fire was lost, but all the occupants escaped unharmed. There was no insurance.

The Constitution.

PUBLISHED DAILY, SUNDAY, WEEKLY.

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The Daily (without Sunday) per year... \$1.50
The Sunday Edition (20 to 25 pages)... \$1.00
The Weekly... \$1.00
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CINCINNATI—J. R. Hawley, 122 Vine St.
NEW YORK—Brentano's, corner Broadway and Sixteenth Street; the Hotel Marlborough.
CHICAGO—F. O. News Company, 51 Adams Street; Great Northern Hotel.
DENVER, COLO.—Hamilton & Kendrick.
HOUSTON, TEX.—Bottler Bros.
KANSAS CITY, MO.—Van Noy Bros.

The traveling representatives of The Constitution are Messrs. William M. Kersh, William H. Overbey and L. B. Wilcox.

Notice to Subscribers.

Do not pay the carriers. We have regular collectors in the city—Messrs. Charles H. Donnelly, R. L. Cannon and G. W. Tinker.

NICHOLS & HOLLIDAY, Constitution Building, sole advertising managers for all territory outside of Atlanta.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

THE CONSTITUTION has received notice that one L. V. Newman, who has been collecting subscriptions for the day in Madison, Ga., Mr. Newman is not authorized to collect for THE CONSTITUTION, and all persons are cautioned against paying him money on account of the paper. The only authorized traveling agents of THE CONSTITUTION are:

MESSRS. WILLIAM M. KERSH,
WILLIAM H. OVERBEY
L. B. WILCOX.

10 PAGES.

ATLANTA, GA., December 4, 1896.

Trust the People.

The discussion which took place in the state senate Wednesday on the proposition to elect judges and solicitors of the superior courts by the people was very interesting, and the vote against the adverse report of the judiciary committee was significant.

The Constitution holds that the bill will pass. If the people are capable of electing governors, supreme court judges and members of the legislature they are certainly capable of electing judges and solicitors of the superior courts. The truth is, no argument can be advanced against the proposition that will stand serious examination. The whole tenor of the times is to place the governing power more directly in the hands of the people. This is seen in the strong movement in favor of electing United States senators by the people, which was felt in Georgia in the demand for senatorial primaries last summer and in the overwhelming vote in favor of electing judges of the supreme court by the people.

After these manifestations it is impossible to see on what ground the proposition to elect superior court judges and solicitors by the people can be resisted, especially by those who believe in popular government. One of the arguments against the proposition, and the one that is worth considering is to the effect that log-rolling can be carried on in a nominating convention as well as in the legislature. We concede this with the remark that the argument practically admits what cannot, indeed, be denied, that the election of judges and solicitors by the legislature is often used to promote the log-rolling schemes and deals in which the real interests of the people are lost sight of.

We admit that there can be log-rolling schemes and deals in a nominating convention, but there is this difference between legislative manipulation and that which may take place in a convention: When the legislature, as the result of log-rolling, selects a judge or a solicitor not agreeable to the people of the circuit in which they are to do business, there is no remedy for it. Should log-rolling in a convention result in the nomination of judges and solicitors not agreeable to the people, the opportunity is open to the voters to revise this action and elect men in whom they have confidence.

As a matter of fact, however, the primaries at which the delegates to the nominating convention are selected, would settle the whole business. These delegates would know beyond all question what candidates the people favored, and no amount of log-rolling would be likely to influence them. In any event, the "deals" made by a convention would be less harmful and demoralizing than those made by the general assembly; for the people would have an opportunity to revise the action of the nominating convention; whereas candidates chosen by the legislature must serve out their terms whether they are agreeable to the people or not.

Another argument employed against the proposition to elect judges and solicitors by the people is to the effect that "the judicial ermine will be dragged in the filth of politics." This is a mere oratorical phrase. There is no "filth" in politics when the people themselves have charge of the matter. All that is "filthy" in politics emanates from the closet-made deals that are carefully kept out of sight and hearing of the people.

Charges are sometimes lightly made

and common report has been known to err. But every intelligent man in Georgia knows that, so long as judges and solicitors are elected by the legislature, there will remain the possibility of just such political obligations as common rumor hints at. Given the possibility, and there will always be found politicians ready to take advantage of it.

Now the essence of "filth" in politics is for a judicial officer, judge or solicitor to feel, or to be placed in a position where he may be made to feel, that he is under obligations to some man or set of men, and that these obligations make it incumbent on him to use the influence which his position gives him to advocate personal interests of those who have aided him to secure his place.

A judicial officer should be under obligations to none but the people, and any system which places the obligations elsewhere is so far wrong that it ought to be rejected as promptly as possible. There is no reason why any man or set of men should distrust the people. Our very greatest men, Toombs, Stephens, Hill, Brown, were always willing to trust the people, and this confidence in the people was one of the most important elements of their greatness.

Let the members of the legislature follow the example of these great men and trust the people.

The most important thing to be considered in connection with the bill now before the senate is that it does not provide, arbitrarily, that these elections shall be transferred to the people, but it gives the people the right to vote on the question as to whether or not the constitution shall be amended so as to take these elections out of the legislature and put them in the hands of the people. A vote against this bill, therefore, is a vote against giving the people the right to say whether or not they want the change. To refuse the people an expression on a question of such grave importance is to assume a responsibility which no member of the legislature is prepared to take. It may be made a very serious matter if the people themselves take hold of it.

A member might vote against the principle involved in the bill if it were in final shape, but the bill simply provides that the people shall vote on the question of ratification or rejection of a constitutional amendment, and whatever any member may think on the question, he has not the right to refuse the people this expression.

Help the University Boys.

The success of the university football team on last Thanksgiving day has not only stimulated a deeper interest in athletics among the Alabama boys, but its influence has also been strongly felt among the alumni of that institution.

In order to place our State university on a level footing with northern and eastern colleges it is necessary to include athletics in the curriculum of the institution. So far as the members of the faculty have had it in their power they have given the boys every encouragement and it now devolves upon the alumni to supplement the endeavor of the faculty.

There is not a university man in the state who is not proud of the record achieved by the Athens boys on last Thanksgiving day and who does not feel that such a spirit of pluck and determination as the boys evinced on that occasion deserves to be encouraged. Until a better field is provided for the boys on the campus at Athens it will be impossible for them, except under very great difficulties, to make any headway in athletic exercises. To overcome this difficulty it is proposed by some of the alumni members to build a field on the campus at a cost not to exceed \$1,500. In line with this suggestion committees of university students have been appointed to solicit aid, and Chancellor Boggs has given them a letter of introduction to the alumni.

Every graduate of the university in the state should give the boys a helping hand.

The Cuban Question and the Message.

The outline of that portion of Mr. Cleveland's message referring to the Cuban question, which the Washington correspondents have sent out, is exceedingly interesting. To what extent it is authoritative the message itself must determine.

According to the reports, however, Mr. Cleveland will say that there is no material reason why the United States should interfere in the Cuban rebellion at this time; that it would be a mistake and an act of bad faith with Spain under our treaty to recognize the independence of Cuba, or even to recognize the belligerent rights of the Cubans, since conditions have not materially changed since last winter.

Nevertheless, the report goes on to say that, owing to the American rights and interests involved, it is the duty of the Spanish government to suppress the rebellion in a limited time; and if at the conclusion of a reasonable period the revolution has not crushed, Mr. Cleveland will feel it his duty to recommend to congress that this government should interfere.

It is reasonable to suppose that so meager an outline of what Mr. Cleveland says on the Cuban question must necessarily leave out some of its more important features. It is not at all probable, for instance, that Mr. Cleveland rests his action on the absolutely material and commercial view of the question.

Far the most important principle involved, and one that calls loudly for interference—the only principle indeed that gives interest and importance to the Cuban question—is the fact that the Cuban patriots are carrying on a struggle for liberty and free government; a struggle that is as worthy of attention as the fight of the American patriots made to free themselves from the British yoke, as worthy of attention and as deserving of success.

It is for this reason and no other that both political parties have expressed sympathy with the Cuban cause. It is

for this reason and no other that the American people, without regard to party, are anxious to see this great republic lend a helping hand to the struggling Cuban patriots, to the end that they may enjoy the blessings of self-government, free from the oppressive rule of the weakest and most corrupt monarchy on the face of the earth.

The people of this country as a whole care nothing whatever about the material interests involved. They care nothing about the concerns of Tom, Dick or Harry, who may be engaged in trade, or who may chance to hold Spanish bonds. They are anxious to see the Cuban question disposed of on the higher grounds of a love of liberty and a whole some desire to further the ends of human liberty and freedom here, there and everywhere.

We are not criticizing Mr. Cleveland's message before its contents are known. We feel sure that if he is in favor of interference at all, he justifies his position by an appeal to higher motives and nobler arguments than those that are embodied in the material interests involved.

Mexico's Favorite Son.

Our sister republic of Mexico seems to be perfectly well satisfied with her present chief magistrate, who has ruled over the affairs of that country for more than a decade.

Several weeks ago President Diaz was honored by his fellow citizens with another lease upon the office which he has held with such marked ability for so many years. Although his personal inclinations were strongly at variance with the wishes of the people, he nevertheless agreed to close his eyes to the attractions of private life and to assume for another term of years the high office to which the republic had called him. On yesterday, therefore, the presence of a vast concourse of people, President Diaz once more assumed the reins of government and entered upon his fifth term of office as Mexico's chief executive.

The frequent honors which our sister republic has heaped upon her favorite son constitutes one of the most remarkable tributes of the present generation. It is more than a mere tribute to his popularity, however, for nothing short of genius can possibly explain the tenacious grasp which he holds upon the people. When the present chief executive was called to the office which he now holds, Mexico was in a state of revolution, and looked for a republican form of government could never be successfully established over such a restless and turbulent citizenship. Under the able administration of President Diaz, however, the fires of revolution have not only been completely extinguished, but the success of republican principles of government in Mexico has been forever established. Mexico is today a well-ordered, liberty-loving and peaceful republic, and the man who, above all others, is entitled to the credit of this remarkable change is President Diaz. The people of Mexico recognize his superior gifts as well as his patriotic devotion.

Cuba and the St. Louis Platform.

If the republican party intends to redeem the pledges it made to the people in the late campaign the policy of the next administration with reference to the Cuban question can be foreshadowed in a measure by the declarations of the St. Louis platform.

On the subject of Cuban independence the platform reads as follows:

"From the hour of achieving their own independence the people of the United States have regarded with sympathy the struggles of our sister republices to free themselves from European domination. We watch with deep and abiding interest the heroic battle of the Cuban patriots against cruelty and oppression, and our best hopes go out for the full success of their determined contest for liberty. The government of Spain, having lost its control of Cuba and being unable to protect the property or lives of resident American citizens or to comply with its treaty obligations, we believe that the government of the United States should actively use its influence and good offices to restore peace and give independence to that island."

Such is the vigorous and emphatic language of the foregoing plank that the next administration will have no choice other than the one imposed upon it by the specific declaration of the platform.

If no greater progress toward a conclusion of hostilities is made during the next four months than since the beginning of the present year it is more than likely that the republican party will be called upon to make its declaration good.

English Prison Reform Needed.

If the information contained in recent London dispatches is correct, the celebrated Dr. Jameson, who leaped into distinction at a bound last December by his raid upon the Dutch republic, was lying at the point of death in Holloway prison until released on Thursday.

England has long been noted for the rigor of her prison discipline. As far back as the time of General Oglethorpe it was necessary to purge the system not only of its legal features of infamy, but of various abuses which had crept into it. While this cleansing process was, of course, salutary in its immediate effect, there came a time when matters were even worse than before the prison reforms were instituted. In spite of the fact that England is today one of the most advanced and civilized nations on the globe her prison discipline has experienced but little of the softening influence of the Christian religion.

Within the last few years scores of criminals have perished within the walls of these English death-traps. In addition to the number killed outright, hundreds, even more unfortunate, have survived the torture of actual imprisonment only to carry away with them the poisons of a living martyrdom. While strong this language is by no means too severe. Only a few days ago a formerly well-known citizen of New York, by the name of Dr. Gallagher, who chanced to experience the severity of England's justice, emerged from one of these prisons in a state of complete mental collapse. Some twelve or thirteen years ago, while on a visit to England, Dr. Gallagher was arrested on the charge of conspiracy and sent to prison. At the time

of his incarceration he possessed a vigorous and sturdy constitution and stood in the front rank of his profession. On his return to America a few days ago it was impossible for his best friends to recognize him.

It is no surprise, therefore, in view of the rigors of prison life in England to hear of Dr. Jameson's unfortunate condition. Although sentenced for a term of only fifteen months the judgment pronounced upon him by the English courts yet have the effect of a death penalty. In this closing decade of the nineteenth century there is urgent need of prison reform in England.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat announces that there has been no "boom" since the election. Will Editor McKimley be kind enough to tell his readers something they don't know?

It is said that if Mr. McKimley can get his experienced hand on the wool tariff everything will be all right.

Editor Dana can talk Spanish, and we suppose he can walk Spanish, unless he has a bicycle frog in his foot.

Editor Pulitzer figures that the Vanderbilt baby to pay \$15,000,000 for the little Marlborough. Prices have risen since John Churchill's day. It is said that two pounds sterling would buy old John.

Mr. Belo, of Texas, seems to be mad because young Charles Crisp was sent to congress in his father's place. He is kicking up what is called a hullabaloo.

When the New York reporters get a man out on Hackensack meadows they make a Cuban horror of him in the papers next day. The Armenian atrocities aren't a marker to those that take place on Hackensack meadows.

EDITORIAL COMMENT.

Several newspapers of the north and east are urging upon congress the importance of creating a new cabinet officer to be known as the secretary of commerce. In view of the fact that other countries are provided with such a department there is nothing repugnant to the spirit of progress in the idea advanced by these papers. On the ground of the growing importance of our trade interests the demand for a commercial portfolio is every day increasing and there is good reason to suppose that congress will take some action in regard to the matter during the next session.

The following table, compiled by the London Standard, shows the national debts of the various leading countries of the world in pounds sterling:

| Country. | (Estimated.) | (Estimated.) |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| France. | £ 900,000,000 | £ 1,200,000,000 |
| Great Britain. | 720,000,000 | 600,000,000 |
| Russia. | 340,000,000 | 275,000,000 |
| Italy. | 330,000,000 | 565,000,000 |
| United States. | 447,000,000 | 239,000,000 |
| Austria-Hungary. | 350,000,000 | 606,000,000 |
| Australia. | 200,000,000 | 94,000,000 |
| Turkey. | 135,000,000 | 130,000,000 |
| Spain. | 120,000,000 | 100,000,000 |
| India. | 130,000,000 | 127,000,000 |
| Brazil. | 94,000,000 | 118,000,000 |
| Japan. | 75,000,000 | 108,000,000 |
| Totals. | £ 4,324,000,000 | £ 5,172,000,000 |

Referring to the death of Mr. William Steinway, the famous piano manufacturer of New York, The Morning Advertiser of that city says:

"His devotion to the public affairs of the city won for him the cordial respect and regard of all friends of good government. He was a man of high character, and in the late campaign the policy of the next administration with reference to the Cuban question can be foreshadowed in a measure by the declarations of the St. Louis platform."

On the subject of Cuban independence the platform reads as follows:

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JUST FROM GEORGIA.

In the Mulberry Tree.
There's a little boy lives in the mulberry tree—
In the very tip-top, tip-top!
And his mother is holding her apron—for he
May drop when the mulberries drop!

Drop-drop!
From the very tip-top!
Drop when the mulberries drop!

How did he get in the top of the tree?
That's what the boys want to know!
Such a dear little, queer little fellow as he—
'Way up where the mulberries grow?

Drop-drop!
From the very tip-top!
Won't he come down when the mulberries drop?

Once he was home with his mother and all—
Good as the boys ever till;
But he just couldn't wait till the berries
Would fall,
And he climbed to the top o' the tree!

Drop-drop!
From the very tip-top!
And won't he come down when the mulberries drop!

And the birds built a nest and they hid him away.
And that's why he stays in the tree;
His mother is holding her apron all day,
And a very and mother is she!

Drop-drop!
From the very tip-top!
Oh, won't he come down when the mulberries drop?

—Frank L. Stanton.
Items from Billville.
There has been a great fall in cotton and snow in this vicinity.

Christmas fireworks are coming in. We fear we'll have considerable hereafter.

Our friends who came to spend Christmas with us last June are still here; but McKinley hasn't reduced the price on groceries yet.

Home life in Billville is just like being in the legislature. The old lady is speaker of the house, and we have mighty hard work to get her to recognize us.

What hope beneath the stars and stripes? In temperance place your trust, And then behold the waterpipes! Go on a regular "hoist!"

Hymn to the Snow.
Not long it stayed—
The snowy barbed;—
Twas but a passing white,
Fast-fading ghost of night.

The sun streamed free—
A million rills went wandering to the sea;
And to the scene
Returned again bright glimpses of the green.

Not long it stayed—
But still remains the havoc that it made;
Twas but a passing white,
A little breath to blast the plumbers' bill.

We doff our beavers to the signal service bureau. The cold flag is certainly on top.

The violet market has been blue for a week past.

A western man is suing the Pullman Car Company because he was unable to find the porter when that functionary was wanted. He must have lost his pocketbook before he boarded the train.

In Weyler's Office.

"Is the general in?"
"He is."

"Can't he see to his private secretary are busy killing Cubans?"

If the late snow didn't quite fill the bill it certainly covered the ground.

A Georgia exchange tells of "a literary supper" that "was rained out." Water won't mix with Georgia literature.

Whoever it is that writes for The Chicago Times-Herald over the name of "Eve Brodrique" is doing mighty good work. She says more beautiful things in a minute than some of the poets could find in a meadow.

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS.

King Leopold of Belgium has announced his intention of visiting next spring, for the first time, his possessions on the Congo. He is to be accompanied by Stanley, and will preside at the opening of the railroad between Matavi and Leopoldville. The king will not visit Africa since his trip along the coast while still duke of Brabant, prior to his accession to the throne.

Queen Victoria has placed a large cross of Portland stone over the grave of the late George Warren in Whippam churchyard. For many years Mr. Warren held the highly confidential office of clerk in the private telegraph office at Osborne, and it was his business to receive and dispatch all messages over the queen's wire. Few persons know more state, ministerial and family secrets than he did.

The fossil remains of a hog have been recently discovered in the "Bad Lands" by an expedition led by Professor E. D. Cope, state geologist of South Dakota, and have been as large as a medium sized elephant.

Excavations made near Agra, in north-western Thessaly, by the Athens Archaeological Society, have brought to light the foundations of ancient towns and cities, the very names of which are forgotten, with tombs of the Mycenaean period, containing terra cotta vessels with inscriptions, arms and works of art.

ITEMS OF INFORMATION.

Nansen will receive a special medal from the Royal Geographical Society when he goes to London, as he has already received the society's highest award, the gold medal, for his explorations in Greenland.

An interesting relic of George Washington is the little cabin in Clarke county, Virginia, which was used by him when, as a young man, he surveyed the lands of upper Virginia. The hut, which is only twenty feet square, contains two rooms, the upper of which is reached by a ladder. In this instrument when on a surveying party. The hut is rapidly falling into decay.

Baron Ferdinand Rothschild possesses an old clock that originally cost over \$100,000. The mechanism records the day of the week, the month of the year, and the phases of the moon, and strikes each hour. The quarters are chimed with a different bell, and at nine o'clock the clock strikes a second hand. The case was made by Wertheimer, and stands fourteen feet high. It was originally the property of Louis XVI.

David Draper, who recently tried to lecture at the Imperial Institute in London on the topic of "Auriferous Conglomerates in South Africa," was greeted with a storm of hisses, and was so constantly interrupted that he finally gave up in despair and left the conglomerates unexplained.

TALES OF THE TOWN.

"The office" has always been the refuge of erring husbands. Late hours and all sorts of dissipation could be explained by that magic term. A world of trusting wives have been put off with that excuse, but some of the more modern, up-to-date and enterprising wives have exploded the old story.

This story tells how one enterprising wife pried into the secret of her husband's "office."

This particular husband fell deeply into the habit of staying out late of nights and fell into the convenient habit of explaining his absence on the score of office duties. He was not, strange to say, entirely truthful in these explanations, but his good wife did not always know of this, as this wise latter day fowl of a husband had posted all his office force to give the proper story whenever his wife should ring up the office by telephone and inquire about him.

Mr. Newell spent yesterday in Atlanta with Mr. E. M. Hall, the well-known engineering engineer, who is the hydrographer of the states of Georgia and Alabama.

Mr. Newell is on his way to Arizona to attend the irrigation congress to be held there within a few days.

"Your question about the water power and water resources of the south is a natural one, and can truly be answered in the negative," said Mr. Hall. "It is perfectly true," he went on, "that the people of Georgia and the people of the south do not realize the blessings from an agricultural standpoint, which they possess in their plentiful and uniform water supply, nor do they realize one-tenth of the great value which they have in their splendid water power."

I have been a great deal in the far west and it is a common thing to find out there men who come from Georgia or Texas, regretting their change, and declaring that if the people at home had realized their blessings they would have advertised them as the best advertised, and would have been reaping the benefits all these years.

"As you know, the United States government owns vast tracts of land out there in the west. The area owned by the government is about two-fifths of the entire area of the United States. Of the seven states from the Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska west in the Pacific, the government owns one-half to nine-tenths of the area of each. The soil there is as good as to be found anywhere, but the lack of proper water supply makes it practically valueless. It is a great problem of the government to develop a system of irrigation which will reclaim these lands, and it is that upon which our department is constantly working. It is a work which depends upon the water supply. Another branch of our work, which is by no means the least important, is that of studying the question of water power. It is a great problem of the government to develop a system of irrigation which will reclaim these lands, and it is that upon which our department is constantly working. 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